

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 243, *approved September 30, 2021*  
Assembly, No. 2281 (*First Reprint*)

1 **AN ACT** concerning the participation of senior citizens in the New  
2 Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and  
3 supplementing Title 44 of the Revised Statutes.

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5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

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8 1. a. The Commissioner of Human Services, to the maximum  
9 extent permissible under federal law, shall review and streamline  
10 the SNAP application process for senior citizens, as provided in this  
11 section. The goal of the streamlining process shall be to ensure that  
12 the number of senior SNAP participants either matches or exceeds  
13 <sup>1</sup>**the national average** New Jersey's overall SNAP participation  
14 rates<sup>1</sup>.

15 b. In streamlining the SNAP application process for seniors, as  
16 required by this section, the commissioner shall, at a minimum:

17 (1) develop and make available a simplified SNAP application  
18 form for use by seniors;

19 (2) provide for the increased sharing of data between the State's  
20 various social services programs and platforms; and

21 (3) authorize, and establish appropriate procedures to facilitate,  
22 the simultaneous or cross enrollment of eligible seniors in the  
23 Medicaid program and SNAP.

24 c. The Department of Human Services, working in consultation  
25 and cooperation with relevant senior citizen advocacy  
26 organizations, shall engage in comprehensive outreach efforts to  
27 ensure that all eligible seniors are made aware of their ability to  
28 apply for and obtain SNAP benefits through a streamlined and  
29 expedited process. At a minimum, the department shall provide  
30 outreach at all health care facilities, social service agencies that  
31 serve seniors in the State, and other organizations focused on food  
32 assistance, and shall use all available media, including print, radio,  
33 television, and the Internet, to inform residents on the availability of  
34 the streamlined SNAP application process established pursuant to  
35 this section.

36 d. The Commissioner of Human Services shall apply to the  
37 Food and Nutrition Service within the United States Department of

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Senate floor amendments adopted March 25, 2021.

1 Agriculture for any necessary waivers or approvals to implement  
2 the provisions of this section.

3 e. As used in this section:

4 “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Human Services.

5 “Department” means the Department of Human Services”

6 “Medicaid program” means the State Medicaid program,  
7 established pursuant to P.L.1968, c.413 (C.30:4D-1 et seq.).

8 “Senior citizen” or “senior” means a person who is 60 years of  
9 age or older.

10 “SNAP” means the New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition  
11 Assistance Program, established pursuant to the federal “Food and  
12 Nutrition Act of 2008,” Pub.L.110-246 (7 U.S.C. s.2011 et seq.).

13

14 2. The Commissioner of Human Services shall adopt rules and  
15 regulations, pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,”  
16 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as may be necessary to  
17 implement the provisions of this act.

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19 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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24 Requires Commissioner of Human Services to streamline SNAP  
25 application process for senior citizens and conduct outreach  
26 regarding senior SNAP participation.